

for campervans and trailers. Orroral campground provides a bush setting for camping and some caravan sites. Mount Clear is the most remote campsite with very basic facilities and is accessed via an unsealed road. Camping is prohibited in the lower and middle portions of the Cotter Catchment and allowed by permit in the upper catchment. No permit is needed for pack-based camping outside the catchment.



Rendezvous Creek. Photo: J Evans

Bushwalking

Much of Namadgi's beauty lies beyond its main roads and picnic areas and walking is the most popular way to explore. There are over 170 kilometres of marked walking tracks. The **Namadgi Map and Guide**, available from the Namadgi Visitor Centre, provides more detailed information.

Walking off marked tracks

Well-prepared walkers who venture into remote parts of Namadgi reap some of the park's greatest rewards. All remote area walkers should record the details of their trip in the bushwalking registers located in the park (see Namadgi Map and Guide for their locations). Walking off marked tracks requires expertise with a map and compass and warm and waterproof clothing as mountain weather can change unexpectedly at any time of year.

Mountain biking

There are several hundred kilometres of scenic mountain roads to explore. Cycling is permitted on formed management roads within the park, except those in the Upper Cotter Catchment/ Bimberi Wilderness south of Mount Ginini car park and west of Orroral Valley. Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks or off the formed roads.

Scenic driving and motorised biking

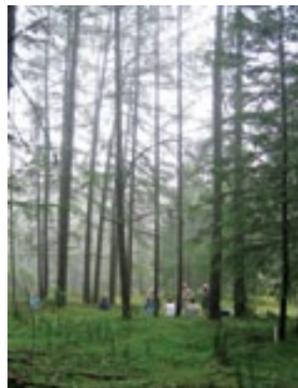
Public roads within the park pass through majestic mountain country, providing access to nature for everyone. The unsealed roads are narrow and can be slippery when wet or frosty. Roads may be closed because of snow, floods and Total Fire Bans. Petrol is available in Canberra, Tharwa and Adaminaby but not in the park. Registered trail bike riding is not allowed off public roads in the park or past locked gates.

Enjoying the snow

Snow can fall over any part of the park but is most common on the Bimberi and Brindabella Ranges. The Mount Franklin Road is open as long as snow conditions allow and, if accessible, the area beyond may be suitable for snow play. The Brindabella, Boboyan and Mount Franklin Roads can be hazardous in winter and help may not always be available. Chains may be required. Contact the Namadgi Visitor Centre for information on road conditions.

Fishing

Pick up a Recreational Fishing in the ACT brochure from the Namadgi Visitor Centre or online www.tams.act.gov.au. Fishing is prohibited in the Cotter River catchment upstream of the Bendora Dam wall, the Cotter River and reservoir up to the junction with Condor Creek, and the Orroral River upstream of the Honeysuckle to Orroral management road. Fishing is allowed in all other streams (classified as trout waters) from the beginning of the long weekend in October to the end of the long weekend in June. Gear/bait restrictions and fish size/bag limits apply. Only artificial fly and lure fishing is allowed as live bait could lead to the introduction of alien species.



Bendora Arboretum



Orroral Homestead

Horse riding

Horse riding is permitted on management roads east of and including the Old Boboyan Road. The National Bicentennial Trail passes through Namadgi National Park on the Naas Valley management road. Before riding, contact the Namadgi Visitor Centre for information and to arrange access and use of yards and camping area at the Mount Clear Pound.

Namadgi Visitor Centre

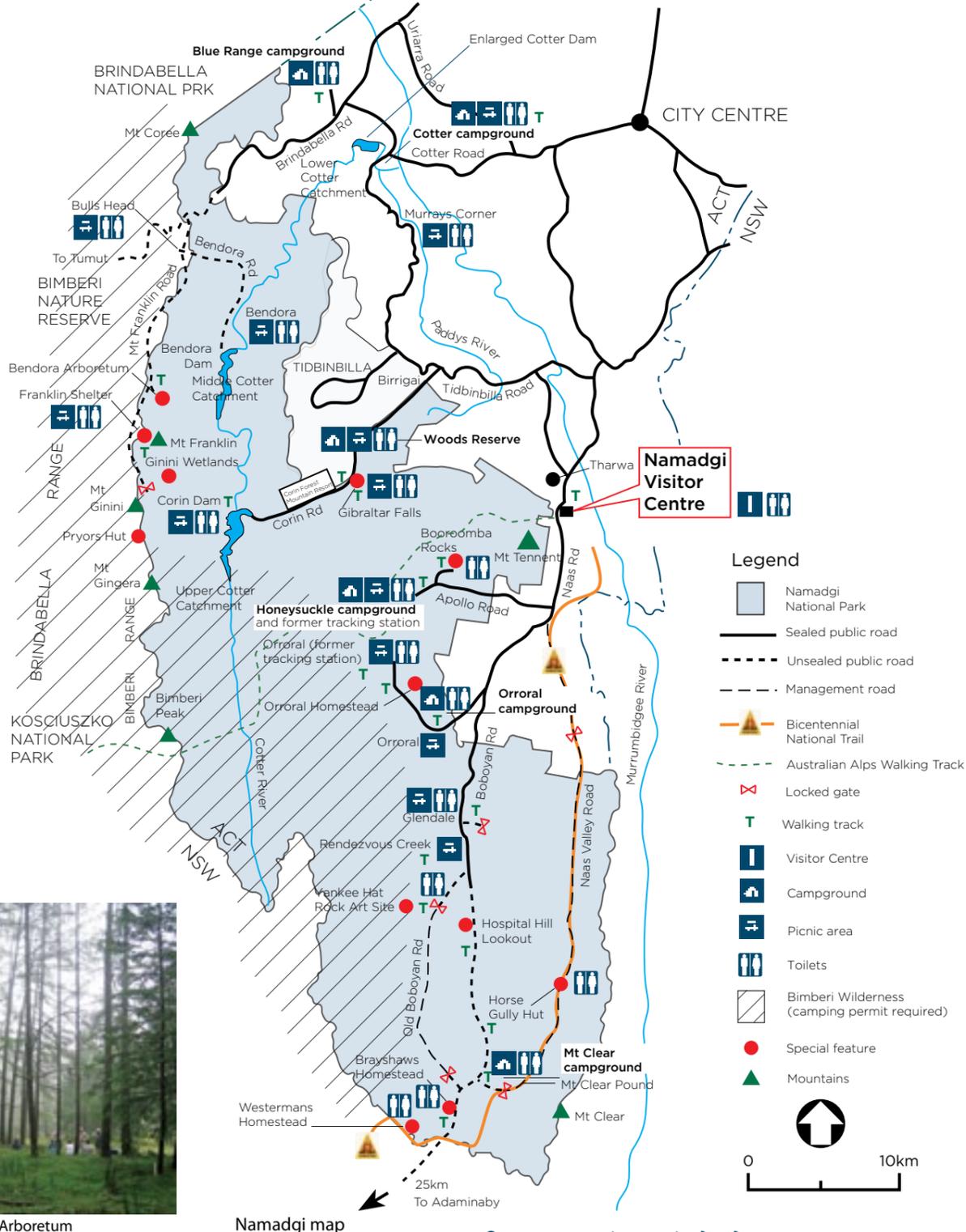
Visit the Namadgi Visitor Centre to get expert advice and see displays and audiovisuals. Maps, books, posters and gifts can be purchased from the shop including the **Namadgi Map and Guide**.

Open: 9 am–4:00 pm weekdays;
9 am–4:30 pm weekends and public holidays
(closed Christmas Day)

Where: Two kilometres south of Tharwa on Naas Road.



Gudgenby Valley and Bimberi Wilderness from Hospital Hill Lookout



Namadgi map

Campgrounds and picnic areas

	Flushing toilets	Composting or pit toilets	Showers	Shelter	Gas barbecues	Wood barbecues (BYO wood)	Water available (treat or boil)	Campervan sites (no electricity)	Tent sites—large groups	Tent sites—six or less people
Campgrounds										
NAMADGI										
Honeysuckle		♿								
Orroral	♿									
Mount Clear										
Woods Reserve	♿									
Blue Range										
Cotter	♿	♿								
Picnic areas										
NAMADGI NATIONAL PARK										
Bulls Head		♿								
Bendora Dam										
Corin Dam										
Former space tracking station (Orroral Valley)		♿								
Orroral River										
Glendale										
Murrays Corner	♿									
Gibraltar Falls										
Woods Reserve										
Cotter Precinct	♿									

In Namadgi, car-based tent camping is permitted only at the three Namadgi campgrounds—Honeysuckle, Orroral and Mount Clear and a three night limit applies. Generators are not permitted at campgrounds. Dogs are allowed at Woods Reserve, Blue Range and Murrays Corner as these areas are not in Namadgi National Park. Refer to the 'Murrumbidgee Corridor map and guide' for a more detailed list of picnic area facilities for the Cotter Precinct. Advance bookings apply to all campgrounds except the Cotter. Fees apply. **Phone Namadgi Visitor Centre: (02) 6207 2900, Canberra Connect: 13 22 81 or book online www.bookings.act.gov.au** No wood is supplied for fireplaces. Please bring your own wood. ♿ = wheelchair accessible facility.

Safety in the mountains

The weather can change suddenly and dramatically. Be prepared for freezing conditions and a longer stay than planned.

Tell someone where you are going and when you are expected back. Put your details in the walks register in the park and inform visitor centre staff if doing an extended overnight walk.

Plan ahead. Be sure to have suitable equipment, carry water, cold and wet weather clothing, repair gear and a first aid kit.

Road conditions can be hazardous. Drive carefully.

Fire

Please protect Namadgi's sensitive environment by observing all fire regulations and obeying fire danger signs. All fires in the ACT, including campfires, are regulated by law.

No fires are allowed in the Cotter Catchment area of the park. However, fuel stoves may be used. Fires are only permitted in officially constructed fireplaces located in campgrounds and picnic areas. Firewood is not provided so please bring your own.

Total Fire Bans prohibit all fires including fuel stoves and gas barbecues. Fire danger signs indicate what fire restrictions are in place. Installed barbecues are turned off during Total Fire Bans.

Walkers and picnickers are encouraged to use fuel stoves instead of lighting a fire. Leave bush wood for habitat and to renew soil.

Solid Fuel Bans may apply periodically. These ban the use of wood, briquettes, tablets and other solid fuels but allow gas and electric heating and cooking. Contact the Namadgi Visitor Centre for information.

Supervise fires and extinguish them when you leave.

Leave no trace



Leave your pets at home. Domestic pets are prohibited.



Carry it in, carry it out. There are no bins so please take your rubbish home for disposal or recycling.



Leave animals, plants, rocks and wood where you find them—It is illegal to remove them from the park.



Use a fuel stove.



Got to go? Carry a small trowel to dig a hole and bury human waste. Choose a site at least 100 metres from water. Where possible, use toilets.



Respect heritage. Do not collect, deface or damage Aboriginal or European cultural heritage artefacts or sites.



Stay on track—even if it is boggy.



(above left) Swamp Wallaby, (right) Hoary Sunray, (front cover) view from Mt Gudgenby. Photos: M. Maconachie

Further information

Namadgi National Park Visitor Centre, Naas Road, Tharwa ACT, 2620 Phone (02) 6207 2900
Email: namadginationalpark@act.gov.au
Canberra Connect: 13 22 81
Website: www.tams.act.gov.au
Australian Alps National Parks website: www.australialps.environment.gov.au
Namadgi Map and Guide available for sale from the Namadgi Visitor Centre

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The ACT's National Park

Named after the Aboriginal word for the ranges in the south-west of the ACT, Namadgi National Park was declared in 1984 and covers 106,095 hectares. There are many reasons to visit Namadgi. It has:

- the highest peak in the ACT—Bimberi Peak is 1911m;
- beautiful campgrounds and picnic areas;
- remote wilderness experiences;
- over twenty walking tracks;
- a wide range of natural environments;
- an abundance of native wildlife;
- Aboriginal and European cultural heritage sites; and
- Easy access and within 20-60 minutes drive from Canberra.



West of Boboyan Trig, Yerrabi Track

The Australian Alps National Parks

Namadgi National Park is at the northern-most end of the Australian Alps. Alpine environments are rare in Australia, covering a tiny 0.15% of the continent. Park agencies in New South Wales, Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory and the Commonwealth Government work together under the Australian Alps national parks banner to manage 1.6 million hectares of the alpine region in recognition of its significance as a single biogeographical region. Website: www.australialps.environment.gov.au

Bimberi wilderness

The Bimberi Wilderness comprises the western third of Namadgi National Park (28,900 ha) and an adjoining area in New South Wales. It includes some of the Alps' most beautiful scenery. You can easily view this rugged area from Hospital Hill Lookout on Boboyan Road, Mt Ginini, Mt Franklin Road or from the Yerrabi Walking Track. The Bimberi Wilderness can be accessed on foot from the Mt Ginini car park and the Orroral Valley. Camping permits apply.

Namadgi and people

Aboriginal Australians have had a long association with Namadgi. As traditional custodians, the Ngunnawal people have obligations to both their ancestors and descendants to participate in the management of their Country, in particular sites of significance like Yankee Hat. Ngunnawal people welcome others onto their traditional lands and ask that visitors be aware of, respect and acknowledge Ngunnawal cultural traditions, laws and customs. There are many Aboriginal heritage sites in Namadgi including rock art, stone tools, quarry sites, stone arrangements and campsites—reminders of the traditional Aboriginal lifestyle that still retains meaning.

You will also discover reminders of European history at Namadgi including the pastoral era, ski clubs, forestry and even the space industry at the former space tracking sites at Honeysuckle and Orroral.



Yankee Hat Rock Art is interpreted to a group of park visitors



Ngunnawal people
welcome you to
namadgi national park

namadgi



A brief guide



Wild things

Habitats range from broad, grassy plains in the valleys, Alpine Ash forests on the slopes, to Snow Gum woodlands and subalpine meadows on the mountain peaks. Within a short distance, vegetation and wildlife can change dramatically. Namadgi also has a special type of wetland called a fen which consists mainly of sedges. Nursery Swamp is the most well-known fen in the park. The park also features unique sub-alpine Sphagnum bog ecosystems which can be seen on the Mt Gingera walk. The Ginini Wetlands has been listed as a Ramsar site, (a site of international significance) as it provides habitat for Latham's Snipe, an international migratory bird and the Northern Corroboree Frog.

Mountains of water

Catchments in Namadgi National Park supply up to 95% of Canberra's and Queanbeyan's water. Water that falls on the mountains is filtered and purified as it passes through Sphagnum Moss bogs, forests, woodlands and grasslands into our dams.

Picnicking

There are many picnic areas in and near the park. Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve also has picnic facilities. All picnic areas have tables and toilets. Please do not feed the wildlife and take your rubbish home.

Camping

Car-based tent camping in Namadgi National Park is permitted only at the three designated campgrounds—Orroral, Honeysuckle Creek and Mount Clear. You can also camp at Woods Reserve, Blue Range and the Cotter which are close to the park. Bookings are essential except at the Cotter campground where an honesty box system applies. Book online www.bookings.act.gov.au, phone the Namadgi Visitor Centre: 6207 2900 or Canberra Connect: 13 22 81. Honeysuckle campground is suitable for small to larger groups and features spaces